

WV-GRP-WS-01

May 2004

The attached GRP application (Name) _____ (Tract No) _____ meets eligibility requirements.

(Signed) District Conservationist _____ Date _____

Eligible lands

Only privately owned land is eligible for participation.

There is no national limitation on the amount of land that can be offered for the program. However, a State may establish such an acreage enrollment limitation.

This eligible land criteria applies to both rental agreement and easement applications. Eligible lands include:

- rangeland,
- improved pastureland, including lands with adapted introduced species, lands containing plants that will endure for the life of the easement or rental agreement, and that will maintain grassland functions and values,
- savannas and shrublands, and
- riparian areas.

Other eligibility conditions include:

- incidental lands may be included to allow for efficient administration of an agreement or easement as determined by the State Conservationist and State Executive Director.
- land that has existing corrals, barns, pens, etc., necessary for the management of the grazing operation are eligible as eligible land. However these structures can be maintained in current condition and may not be expanded without prior approval.
- the offered land must not be subject to an existing easement if it prevents the landowner or operator from complying with the terms of the easement or agreement.

GRP eligibility is subject to the Conservation Compliance Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, 16 U.S. C. 3801 et seq. Persons who are in violation of the HELC/WC provisions and who are currently ineligible for USDA program benefits shall not be eligible to participate in GRP. When the person's eligibility is reinstated, the person regains eligibility to participate in GRP. See Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation Determination, NRCS-CPA-026E (Exhibit 524.xx)

Site Visit Checklist:

Step	Action	Check Mark
1	Verify: land eligibility - the absence of offsite and onsite conditions that would preclude successful restoration.	
2	Prepare the Restoration Plan, if applicable. (After ranking and Tentative Acceptance)	
3	Complete NEPA requirements, when applicable. (Cultural Resources WS) &(WV-CPA052)	
4	Complete ranking worksheet.	
5	Complete a Preliminary Certificate of Inspection and Possession (Exhibit 514.67 <M_440_514_i.htm>) and the Hazardous Substance Examination Checklist (Exhibit 514.68 <M_440_514_i.htm>). The certificate and checklist verify that: NRCS has visually and physically inspected the property. The landowner is occupying the land and by what evidence. There are no apparent, visible activities or uses observed that may be unrecorded claims against the property which could cloud the landowner's ability to provide clear title. There are no apparent, visible activities or uses by a party other than the landowner that could be detrimental or conflict with the Government's interest in land. (Exhibits are in WRP Manual)	
6	Flag the easement area.	
7	Identify cropping rights that the landowner will retain during the fiscal year in which the easement is actually recorded as provided for in section 514.22 <M_440_514_d.htm> . (WRP Manual)	

Application Submission Check List

Item	Description	Check Mark
1	Cover letter certifying eligibility	
2	Application for Long-Term Contracted Assistance (AD-1153)	
3	Current and planned map. Listing of estimated costs.	
4	Land-eligibility determination.	
5	Completed ranking worksheet.	
6	Copy of the deed or other ownership eligibility evidence.	
7	Other related documentation required by the State Conservationist.	